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Preparing for the BIG day



CHARLOTTE : Photo above shows a woman wearing a hat with a variety of decorations including one of President Barak Obama holding a surf board, during preparations for the Democratic National Convention (DNC) on September 3, 2012 in Charlotte, North Carolina. The DNC will take place from September 4 through September 6 and culminate with the nomination of US President Barack Obama as the Democratic party candidate in the 2012 US presidential election. Below: Handmade Barack Obama dolls for sale at the Carolina Fest street festival. (AFP PHOTO)



Valero Energy to convert Aruba Refinery to Terminalling Operation



SAN ANTONIO, Texas. -- Valero Refining Company-Aruba N.V., a subsidiary of Valero Energy Corporation (VLO), yesterday notified employees of the Valero Aruba Refinery that Valero has decided to further reduce operations and reorganize the site as a refined products terminal.

"We believe that Aruba has the assets to compete as a world-scale crude and refined products terminal," said Valero Chairman and CEO Bill Klesse. "With both deep-water berths and smaller berths, the terminal will have the flexibility to load the very largest crude ships. In addition, the scale and mixture of tankage will permit commercially attractive storage opportunities for our customers. Aruba's proximity to growing markets and its business-friendly political environment make it an ideal location for our new terminal operations."

Terminalling activities will, however, require a considerably smaller workforce. The reorganization and reduction in workforce is expected to be complete before the end of 2012. Valero will continue to supply jet fuel, gasoline, diesel, and fuel oil to the island, as well as engage in third-party terminal services. In this terminal operations mode, Valero will continue to be a significant

employer in Aruba, and will continue to invest in Aruba with facility improvements and dock and tankage upgrades.

Valero human resources representatives will begin meeting with refinery employees this week to explain the staffing selection for the terminal operations. A fair and reasonable arrangement will be presented to those employees not selected to be a part of the terminal operations. Valero will provide resources to assist in their transition to other employment.

Valero suspended refining operations at the plant in March and has maintained the refinery in a state that would allow a restart. Valero has also kept its employees

on the payroll pending this decision. In the near term, the refinery will continue to be maintained in a state that would allow a restart should Valero be successful in the pursuit of alternatives for the refinery prior to the transition to terminal operations.

"We will continue to work with Prime Minister Eman and his government in this effort," Klesse said. "Our discussions with interested parties, including those facilitated by the Government of Aruba, will continue, and if successful may result in the suspension of the workforce reduction. We greatly appreciate the continued efforts and support from the Prime Minister and his government."

courtesy of Carib Seek



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Application for “Landsexamen” 2013

ORANJESTAD -- As of school year 2010-2011 the state-exams (Landsexamen) for VWO/HAVO/MAVO is being examined according to the “Estilo Nobo” (new style). This new style state exam entails that they will be working with a “profile.” The student can choose between three different profiles: “Mens en Maatschappijwetenschappen,” “Natuurwetenschappen” en “Humaniora.”

Application for sitting the 2013 state exams takes place during the period September 1 to September 30, 2012. The application form is available via the website of the Department of Education at www.ea.aw (under letter L for “landsexamen”). Students are required to download this application form and fill it out and submit same to the Examen Bureau in the Belgiestraat #2. Candidates who have complied with all the rules for registration and have passed the “screening” will be notified when to submit the necessary documents to complete their registration for sitting the exams.

All applications arriving after September 30 and those not filed in correctly will not be processed.

Those allowed participation in the MAVO/HAVO/VWO state exams for 2013 are:

1. A. who submitted the application form on time (before October 1st 2012) completely and correctly filled in and submitted at the correct instance

B. who paid on time the required fee for sitting the exam.

C. who by April 1st 2013 are:

* 17 years of age or older for participation in the MAVO state exams

* 18 years of age or older for participation in the HAVO state exams

* 19 years of age or older for participation in the VWO state exams

2. Excluding point 1, it is possible for students attending MAVO, HAVO or VWO schools to participate in the state exams who want to earn a one-subject diploma in the school level they are attending. The subject may not be one of the subjects in their normal package at the school they are attending.

All certificates obtained on Aruba are valid for a period of maximum 10 years as of August 2012. This means that certificates older than 10 years may not be exchanged for a HAVO/MAVO or VWO diploma.

For more information, consult: www.ea.aw.

Yesterday the APA tariff for taxis went from Afls. 285 to Afls. 115!

ORANJESTAD -- As of yesterday, September 3rd, taxis no longer pay the Afls.285 tariff to APA for access to the premises and facilities of APA; instead the tariff is now only Afls.115 per year.

This reduction in the tariff was accorded by the government with the taxis back in 2011 when they agreed that they would reduce the APA tariff to equal what was being levied by the airport and that

it would take effect the moment the airport introduced their tariff.

Now the large group of taxis providing service on the wharf will see a reduction in the expense they have with respect to the services they provide. In addition, as of yesterday they have new services exclusively for taxis at the airport. Here they are supplied with a comfortable seating/waiting area with restrooms,

screen monitors and other services to come. The new area designated exclusively for taxi chauffeurs will be maintained by the airport, and taxi chauffeurs who choose to use the service will contribute a nominal fee of Afls.9 per month, or Afls.115 per year. In addition to these services, these chauffeurs have access to the first lane at the airport where they can collect and drop off passengers.

Dr. Emile Westrate honored for years of service and dedication

Dr. Emile Westrate is one of the general practitioners who participated in the special program for the specialization of “house doctors” organized here on Aruba by the “Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam,” Holland. However, after a long and successful career the venerable doctor is retiring. Westrate is leaving his practice and his patients in the hands of a successor whom he helped groom and prepare to take over. He will be enjoying a well-deserved pension.

During the presentation of the three new “house doctors” for Aruba, the government took the opportunity to thank Dr. Westrate for his service to the Aruban community. As a doctor specialized in sports and a true sportsman himself, who always stood ready to help wherever he could, Dr. Westrate earned the respect and appreciation of the entire Aruban community. Dr. Westrate is one of the very few doctors who took the time to personally call on patients at home when it was difficult for them to go to his office, a



practice most doctors have long abandoned.

Dr. Westrate is remembered as one of the first persons to practice the sport of windsurfing together with Dr. Richard Visser, one of the pioneers in Aruba windsurfing. Westrate was also very active in the sunfish sport, among others.

The Minister of Public Health praised Dr. Westrate

for the manner in which he closed out his practice with such a smooth transition, having trained the doctor who is to take over his practice. The government thanked Dr. Westrate for his dedicated service to Aruba and to his patients and expressed the wish that Westrate would remain active in some fashion to help with developments in the medical field on Aruba.

Sunday KOFFIE MORGEN Slot Tournament \$1000,- Cash Prizes
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Tuesday Cool Raffle Awg 1000,- Earn DOUBLE POINTS all day
Wednesday Raffle AWG 500,- Cool Casino - LADIES NIGHT
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Friday BlackJack Tournament \$500,-
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“September to Remember” special at all SETAR outlets



SEROE BLANCO -- During the entire month of September, SETAR, our local telecommunications provider, is presenting a very special program dubbed, “September to Remember.” The special program entails special discounts on SETAR’s ultimate line of “smart phones.” SETAR wishes for everyone to own and know how to use these sophisticated phones. This is the reason for these special offers in prepaid phones, and there will also be reduced tariffs in the contract for Surf & Mail Hybrid and postpaid phones.

Every customer who pur-

chases a “smart phone” in the prepaid format, will receive a Prepaid Super Speed Bundle with 500MB (Download/Upload speed 7200/384 Kbps) at a special price. During “September to Remember” there will be discounts on all editions of the “smart phones.”

“The September to Remember” promotion is valid at all SETAR Teleshops and at the new SETAR Store as of September 1st through to the 29th or for as long as the stock lasts. It will be possible for each person to purchase no more than 2 smart phones per person.

In 2013 Aruba will be “Inter Port” for Monarch of the Seas



ORANJESTAD -- Just recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) and the Pullmantur cruise company made concrete a very important agreement with Aruba. Pullmantur is committed to visiting Aruba’s port practically every week for 48 visits in 2013, and 52 visits in 2014.

Monarch of the Seas has a capacity of 2,733 passengers and 860 crew members, which is the vessel expected to make the calls on Aruba. Aruba has been appointed one of the destinations to offer “interport” services. This simply means that passengers may board the

Monarch of the Seas here on Aruba, which is the case also with the island of Curacao.

Aruba will have a total of 110 cabins available, which means that weekly more or less 220 passengers could board the vessel from Aruba. They will be sailing from the port of Aruba to La Guaira (Venezuela), Curacao, Panama, Cartagena and back to Aruba every Monday. Aruba has doubled the amount of cabins compared to other destinations. This is due to the relevance and demand of Aruba as a destination.

The primary objective of

Aruba Tourism Authority is to bring as many tourists as possible to stay over on Aruba. Obviously, Aruba stands to benefit greatly from this agreement in view of the attractive packages being offered by Pullmantur. One good example is the possibility for European cruise passengers to spend a week at sea and a week enjoying the island of Aruba.

Aruba, as a destination, will continue to welcome other opportunities such as this “interport” with Pullmantur. This benefits both the cruise industry as well as the tourism industry of the island in general.

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Group of loyal visitors honored at the Marriott Ocean Vacation Club



Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal friends as Ambassador of Goodwill and Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees were Mr. Andy and Mrs. Karyn Drogowitz, Mr. Rodney and Mrs. Alisha Daab and Mr. Quincy and Mrs. Arnetta Hobbs. The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10 to 19 (Distinguished Visitors) and 20 or more consecutive years (Ambassadors of Goodwill). All the honorees are loyal members of the Marriott Ocean Vacation Club. The certificates were presented to them by Mr. Ernest Giel, representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, together with Mrs. Gail Sahit and Lillian Britten representing the Marriott Ocean vacation Club.

Cas Animal Cont'd A Happy Ending for Ruban

Kirsten Arndt, founder Cas Animal Foundation, has dedicated her life to rescuing stray and abandoned dogs off Aruba's streets, always with the ultimate goal of seeing them adopted into good, loving homes. Often, vacationers will find their hearts captured by one of these strays, and they are sort of adopted for the week. Sometimes, to their good fortune, these people cannot bear to leave Aruba without them.

In a number of cases they will be referred to Kiki, who always does her best to facilitate the transport of the new family member. It is much easier to return with an Aruban dog than any might think. They require examination and certification by a qualified vet to pass health standards prior to departure; but since rabies is unheard of on Aruba, they can enter without a lengthy quarantine. Kiki will also help in obtaining a dog transport and getting them to the airport, if needed. Just such a happy story is that of Ruban and Janet Enoch from Geneva, Illinois. She is an animal lover and a member of SHowing Animals Respect and Kindness, or SHARK. She discovered Ruban on the beach one night, and hid him away in her room until Kiki could bring



Ruban when he was first found

him to Contreras Veterinary Clinics the next morning to have him checked.

Though Ruban tested positive for heartworm and tick fever, Janet elected to take him home with her anyway, and he responded well to treatment. Janet reports her Victoria's Secret Nourishing Shampoo and Conditioner "made a new man of him," and he gets along quite well with her seven cats. Ruban wants to play, but the cats were not very interested. He also was eager to sleep on the bed with Janet and her husband, but the cats left little room for that either, so he has his comfortable corner of the bedroom and is adjusting well.

Kiki also works with a number of resorts to capture the cats that come to their premises and have them neutered. She will always try to find a good home

for a stray animal, but cats often do best on their own, keeping the hotel grounds free of unwanted vermin. In these circumstances, they are neutered, and then returned to its comfort zone to do its job.

Her costs for feeding all the dogs she rescues and maintains in her shelter are astronomical, as well as her veterinary bills. She is working hard to build a proper shelter in Kibaima. If anyone wishes to help, they can support her with donations in the form of payment to the Cas Animal Foundation account at the Contreras Veterinary Clinics or to Animal Care Clinic in Paradera, phone number 582-8382. Donations can be made directly to the foundation's account: Cas Animal Foundation, CMB Bank account # 25762110.

If you are not an island resident and wish to adopt a dog, or see one in distress, call Kiki at 742-8732 and she will help you as she helped Janet.

Coming up on September 29 will be the annual Cas Animal fundraising golf tournament at Tierra Del Sol Country Club and Golf Course. Those wishing to participate to benefit a worthy cause can contact the TDS Golf Pro Adam Williamson at e-mail: adam.williamson@tierradelisol.com.

Venezuela says no evidence of Yanomami massacre



CARACAS (AFP) - Venezuelan investigators have found no evidence of an alleged massacre of as many as 80 people from the Yanomami indigenous group by illegal Brazilian gold miners, a minister says.

The alleged killing was reported last week by an indigenous advocacy group called Horonami Organizacion Yanomami (HOY). It said miners burned down a building in which about 80 people lived, back in July.

Venezuelan Interior Minister Tareck El Aissami said Friday that forensic teams and security officials were visiting nine Yanomami com-

munities in southern Venezuela along the border with Brazil.

The country's minister for indigenous peoples, Nicia Maldonado, said Saturday night that the investigators did not find evidence of any killings, according to the AVN news agency.

"The final outcome of these visits we have made is that no evidence of any killing was found," nor of houses or huts being burned down as denounced by HOY, Maldonado said.

Brazil said over the weekend it would assist in the probe.

Bon Bini Festival is tonight



The weekly Bon Bini Festival takes place tonight at the Fort Zoutman in Wilhelminastraat. Bon Bini Festival is the only weekly folkloric event on the island. Come mingle with the locals and enjoy a taste of Aruban culture.

This week the festival will feature music by the traditional Aruba caha di orgel, folkloric music, dance performance and brass band.

During the festival there will be local food, sweets and traditional local arts and crafts on sale.

Arubus has regular busses from all hotels areas to Oranjestad Central Terminal, which is only a short walk from Fort Zoutman. Round trip bus fare is \$2.30. The festival is from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Entrance fee is \$5.

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Dutch Liberals widen lead over Socialists

AMSTERDAM - Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte of the Liberal Party has widened his lead over Socialist Party leader Emile Roemer in the run up to an election on September 12 that has been dominated by the euro zone crisis, a survey showed yesterday.

However, with no single party set to win more than about a quarter of the seats in parliament, the Netherlands still faces the prospect of months of coalition talks and

political uncertainty.

The fiscally conservative country is considered a core euro zone member and is one of the few that still has a triple-A credit rating.

But the election has highlighted growing discontent over Europe, in particular over the high cost of bailing out weaker euro zone states and the pressure for belt-tightening at home where welfare benefits are being steadily whittled away by budget cuts.

Obama stadium speech to go ahead 'rain or shine'

CHARLOTTE (AFP) - President Barack Obama's make-or-break convention speech will be held at a 74,000-seater stadium Thursday come "rain or shine," Democrats insisted, as the event risked being rained out.

The prime-time address, which will help decide Obama's political fate and cap the 2012 Democratic convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, risks being disrupted by thunderstorms

forecast for the area.

"The event on Thursday night at Bank of America Stadium is going forward rain or shine at this point," said top convention organizer Steve Kerrigan.

The prospect of a rain-beaten Obama addressing tens of thousands of fans in the stadium and tens of millions more via television and Internet, is enough to make campaign planners blanch.

With the nation in a dour mood amid high unemployment, Obama will hope to provide a brighter outlook for voters, a task that would not be helped by the heavens opening up.

According to the National Weather Service, there is "a chance of showers and thunderstorms" on Thursday night with the likelihood of precipitation placed at about 30 percent.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

S.African court frees first batch of miners after shooting

PRETORIA (AFP) - A South African court yesterday released 47 of 270 mineworkers who had been held since 34 of their colleagues were gunned down by police at an illegal strike last month.

"The murder charges against the accused are at this point of time withdrawn," said Magistrate Esau Bodigelo as he released 47 miners in the court north of Pretoria. "You may stand down," he added.

The prosecutions chief announced on Sunday that the murder charges would be provisionally withdrawn after sparking outrage when they were laid down Thursday for the August 16 killing in which police gunned down dozens of strikers at the Lonmin platinum mine.

The releases are being

processed in batches with no bail required but the group will return to court on 12 February 2013 on charges of public violence and for holding an illegal gathering.

Prosecutor Nigel Carpenter said the state had provisionally withdrawn the murder and attempted murder charges.

"The charges will be withdrawn from the 270 accused but only... about 160 will appear in court today," he said.

Addresses of the arrested miners had to be verified by police as a condition for their release.

The bloodshed shocked the world, raising parallels to brutality under the white apartheid regime, and has been described as the worst police crackdown since democracy in 1994.

Mexico leader says US shares blame for drug violence

MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Outgoing Mexican President Felipe Calderon blamed loose US gun laws and American addicts for fueling his country's drug violence as he defended his controversial anti-cartel offensive yesterday.

Presenting the final annual report of his presidency, Calderon insisted that his 2006 decision to deploy thousands of troops to round up drug traffickers was not to blame for the relentless crime wave plaguing the country.

The conservative leader, whose single six-year term ends December 1, said the wave of murders and kidnappings was linked to brutal turf wars being waged between Mexico's ultra-violent drug

cartels.

But he also pointed his finger at the United States, saying criminals were able to arm themselves with powerful guns after Washington lawmakers refused to renew a law banning the sale of assault weapons such as AK-47 rifles in 2004.

The United States, he said, "is co-responsible for this grave problem because they are the consumers, they are the providers of funds and they are the providers of weapons."

"We firmly express the need to slow the flow of criminal weapons and cash fueling the violence in our country," he said in a speech delivered in Mexico City's National Palace.

More than 50,000 people

have been killed in drug-related violence since 2006, when Calderon unleashed the military against drug traffickers.

The president touted successes in his strategy, saying that 22 of Mexico's 37 most wanted criminals had been either captured or killed while his government implemented "historic" judicial and security reforms.

But Calderon said the end of the US assault weapon ban in 2004 "allowed criminals to have almost unlimited access to all types of weapons" which considerably increased their firepower against the state and rival groups.

"This fueled the spiral of violence, which began around the same time," he added.



Peter Williams (wearing a T-shirt with the pictures of US President Barack Obama), with United Auto Workers Local 5283, holds an American flag while waiting for the start of the 'Charlotte Labor Day Parade' on September 3, 2012 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Labor groups from across the state participated in the Labor Day event on the eve of the Democratic National Convention.

Suicide car bomb targets US in Pakistan



Rescue worker survey a damaged vehicle after it was hit during a bomb attack in Peshawar yesterday. Two Americans working for the U.S. consulate were wounded in a bomb attack on their vehicle in the Pakistani city of Peshawar yesterday, the American embassy said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility, but it was at least the third time since April 2010 that the consulate and its staff have been targeted by militants linked to the Taliban and Al-Qaeda.

General: Syria army to retake Aleppo within 10 days

ALEPPO (AFP) - The Syrian army will recapture Aleppo from rebel forces within 10 days, a senior commander in charge of the five-week military offensive on the commercial capital told AFP yesterday.

The city would fall once Saif al-Dawla, one of the two "toughest" neighbourhoods, was conquered as the other, Salaheddin, had already been seized back from the "terrorists" concentrated in the two areas, the general said.

"They are the most difficult given the urban geography. After that other parts will be easier to take," he said on condition of anonymity.

The general said that about 3,000 government troops were involved in the fight against about 7,000 "terrorists," a term

used by regime officials to describe the rebels.

He added that 2,000 rebels had been killed since the start of the assault on Aleppo at the start of August.

The rebels had on July 20 opened a new front in the Syrian conflict by launching an attack on the city before the army dislodged them from several sectors, including Salaheddin, one of their main strongholds.

"Salaheddin has been totally under the control of the military since August 9," said the commander of a unit from the south of the country that is part of the offensive.

AFP journalists who were able to go with the army to Salaheddin found that the neighbourhood was effectively

under the control of the government forces.

Under dangling electricity cables, volunteers from civil defence groups helped police remove bodies from the streets and put them into bags.

But fighting continued in Saif al-Dawla, a suburb that resembled a ghost town.

"We control the top of Saif al-Dawla. It will be easy to conquer the rest," another colonel said on condition of anonymity, as widespread destruction of the district was clearly evident.

The commander in charge of the operations also said that the army controlled the upper area and declared that the operation in the district would be complete in two days.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Colombia rejects claim its military run by the US

BOGOTA (AFP) - Colombia yesterday rejected accusations from Bolivia's president that the Colombian military is run by the United States, in a spat between two key players in the war on drugs.

"The government of Colombia does not accept unfounded allegations from Bolivia or any other country," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Bolivian President Evo Morales made his comments Sunday in an angry response to US figures that indicate Bolivia and Peru have surpassed Colombia as the world's biggest cocaine producers.

Morales said Colombia's drug problem was being downplayed by Washington "because there is a US military base, there are Americans commanding the Armed Forces of Colombia."

In fact, there is no longer a US base in Colombia, though there is significant American military involvement in the country.

Yesterday's statement said Morales had shown disrespect for Colombia's fight against drug trafficking.

In 2008, Morales, a leftist and harsh critic of the United States, expelled representatives of the US Drug Enforcement Administration and USAID, as well as the US ambassador, whom he accused of meddling in Bolivia's domestic affairs.

The United States provided \$5.2 billion in anti-drug aid to Andean countries between 2006 and 2011, of which around 76 percent went to Colombia.

Peru received \$659 million, while \$366 million went to Bolivia and \$233 million to Ecuador.



COLOMBIA : TV grab showing FARC Commander Timoleon Jimenez(L) next to a picture of late guerrilla leader Manuel Marulanda in a video posted on the FARC website, recorded at an undisclosed place which was seen on September 03, 2012. The video includes footage of young fighters singing a rap song in favor of dialogue with the government. Colombian press reports said full blown peace talks are due to begin in October, first in Norway and then continuing in Cuba. The discussions would likely address issues such as distributing land to peasants, rebels' links to drug trafficking and the idea of reincorporating guerrilla leaders into everyday life -- many of them have been convicted of crimes against humanity, so this is a sensitive point. (AFP PHOTO)

India claims 'historic' diplomatic bag lost in French Alps

FRANCE, Chamonix-Mont-Blanc: AFP picture taken yesterday in Chamonix, French Alps, shows a diplomatic bag reading "Diplomatic mail" and "Ministry of external affairs" belonging to the Indian Government after it was found at the Bossons Glacier, near the Mont Blanc in the French Alps, on August 21, 2012, 46 years after the crash of the "Kangchenjunga" Air India plane on the Mont-Blanc, a Boeing 707 flying from Bombay to New-York.

Alpinist Arnaud Christmann discovered the diplomatic bag after tourists had reported something shining at the Bossons Glacier and had thought it was the last wheel of the "Malabar Princess" Indian plane which had crashed on November 3, 1950 on the Mont Blanc.

French Gendarmes from the High Mountain Gendarmerie Squad (PGHM) give the diplomatic mail back to Indian diplomatic authorities yesterday.



Britain urges fresh talks with Ecuador over Assange

LONDON (AFP) - Britain wants to resume talks with Ecuador and find a diplomatic solution to the standoff over WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange as soon as possible, Foreign Secretary William Hague said yesterday.

Addressing parliament, Hague also said Assange could not be extradited from Sweden to a third country without Britain's consent, which would not be given if there was a prospect of a death sentence being imposed.

Assange took shelter in the Ecuadorian embassy in London in June after exhausting all appeals against extradition from Britain to Sweden, where he is wanted for questioning over sexual assault allegations. Ecuador has granted him diplomatic asylum.

The 41-year-old Australian fears Sweden will hand him over to the United States, where he could face prosecution over the release of a vast cache of leaked Iraq and Af-

ghanistan war reports and diplomatic cables.

"We wish to continue our dialogue with the government of Ecuador," Hague said in a written statement to parliament. "We believe that our two countries should be able to find a diplomatic solution. We have invited the government of Ecuador to resume, as early as possible, the discussions we have held on this matter to date."

Hague said London had fully addressed Quito's concerns about Assange's human rights and fears of onward ex-

tradition.

"The suggestion that there would be a risk of a breach of Mr Assange's human rights on extradition to Sweden is completely unfounded," he said.

"The suggestion that Mr Assange's human rights would be put at risk by the possibility of onward extradition from Sweden to a third country is also without foundation."

"Our consent may only be given in accordance with the international conventions by which the UK is bound," Hague said in his statement.

Sasaki

Apartments

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Health & Living

Maldivian teen to face 100 lashes for sex: report

COLOMBO (AFP) - A Maldivian court has ordered 100 lashes and eight months' house arrest for a 16-year-old girl convicted of having sex with an older man, a report said Monday. She "confessed" to having sex with the 29-year-old after her family pressed charges. The man was found guilty of having sex with a minor and sentenced on Sunday to 10 years in jail, the private Minivan News reported.

The pair were found having intercourse in the Raa atoll, about 200 kilometres (125 miles) north of the capital is-

land Male, the report said, adding that the girl would be flogged when she reaches adulthood.

"As she is legally a minor, the court stated that the girl's sentence would be implemented when she turned 18," Minivan News said. It was not immediately clear when the couple had sex.

The court ruling came 10 months after UN Human Rights chief Navi Pillay urged the Maldives to stop publicly flogging women for having extra-marital sex.

Pillay noted during a visit to

the country that the Maldives had progressed in safeguarding the rights of its 330,000 Sunni Muslims, but more needed to be done to protect women.

Flogging is normally handed down as a punishment by village chiefs who also act as local judges. A cane is used.

The Maldives, better known as a luxury tourist destination, adopted multi-party democracy in 2008, but faced political unrest leading to the resignation of the first elected president, Mohamed Nasheed, in February.

India lower house passes sexual harassment bill

NEW DELHI (AFP) - India's parliament, which has been deadlocked for days due to opposition protests, on Monday used a brief break in the uproar to pass legislation protecting women from sexual harassment at work.

The lower house passed the bill before business was again abandoned for the day as lawmakers from the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) shouted, stood in the well of the assembly and waved their papers.

Women's rights activists say sexual harassment is a rampant problem in India, where an increasing number of women are joining the workforce.

The legislation, which must still be passed by the upper house before becoming law, specifically includes protection for female domestic staff, one of the most vulnerable work groups in India.

The anti-harassment bill, which improves women's rights to take legal action

against abuse at work, also means that all workplaces must have a formal complaints system for sexual harassment allegations.

"Many women are scared to report sexual abuse as they want to keep their jobs," said R.K. Sethi, who runs Shakti, a women's rights forum in New Delhi.

Sethi said studies suggest one out of five Indian female workers aged under 35 have suffered physical assault by a colleague or manager at work.

Brazil abortion stirs controversy

SAO PAULO (AFP) - A Sao Paulo court allowed a woman to abort a four-month-old malformed fetus despite Brazil law only granting abortions in cases of rape or when the mother's life is in danger, local media said.

In this case, the fetus was diagnosed with Edwards syndrome, a genetic disorder that is the second most common autosomal trisomy after Down syndrome, the daily Folha de Sao Paulo reported.

The mother sought an abortion, which was denied. She then appealed, saying her life was at risk and that the child would have no chance of survival outside the womb.

On appeal, a judge allowed the procedure, saying that the law, which has not been

changed in 70 years, should be interpreted with some flexibility.

It was the second recent high-profile case to move forward despite the limits Brazilian law puts on abortion.

In April, the Supreme Court allowed an abortion of a fetus with anencephaly -- in which a large part of the brain and skull is missing -- despite the opposition of some religious groups.

Woman severs cheating boyfriend's penis in Peru

LIMA (AFP) - A woman who discovered her boyfriend had been cheating on her sliced off his penis with a kitchen knife and tossed it down the toilet as he slept, local media reported.

Julia Munoz Huaman, 41, confessed she emasculated her companion Ramon Arias, 46, in a jealous rage.

The grisly incident at a hostel stunned residents of the Lima neighborhood of Brena where it took place. Security guards nabbed the woman and detained her as Arias wailed in pain.

He rushed to hospital and placed in intensive care, according to the America TV report.



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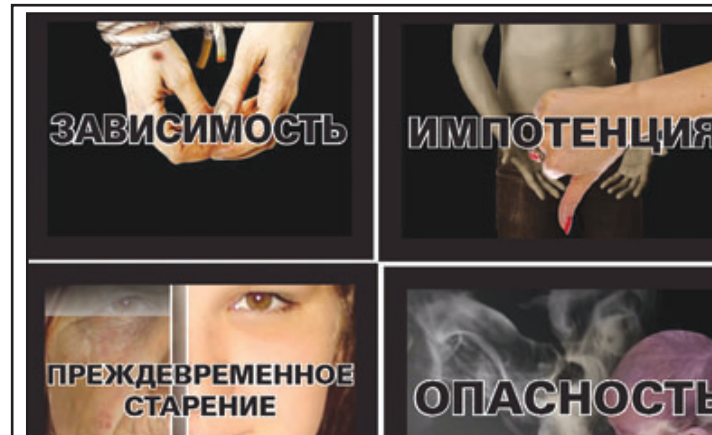
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MEDELLIN (AFP) - A nurse fancy dressed with a cowboy costume comforts Juan Diego Zuluaga, 14, after his scar correction operation on September 1, 2012, in a clinic in Medellin, Antioquia department, Colombia. Colombian doctors operated for free 111 poor children from hearing problems, burns and harelip among other illnesses, during the Children's Day Surgeries --an event organized by the mayor's office and a doctors' association to improve the children's quality of life and health conditions.

AFP PHOTO



MOSCOW : A handout combo released on September 3, 2012 by the Russian Health Ministry shows graphic images to appear on cigarette packs. The signs (clockwise from bottom C) read: premature aging, prematurity, emphysema, addiction, impotence, danger. Russia's health ministry published today photographs on its site that makers will be obliged to print on cigarette packs from May next year as it prepares for a Western-style crack-down on smoking.

AFP PHOTO

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TE: 586 4046**Sci-Tech****Dutch teen jailed for 'shocking' Facebook killing**

THE HAGUE (AFP) - A Dutch court on Monday jailed a teenager for stabbing a 15-year-old girl to death and attempting to kill her father after she allegedly posted derogatory comments about another girl on Facebook.

The boy, identified as 15-year-old Jing Hua K, was jailed for a year and ordered to spend at least two years in a psychiatric facility to be "treated for his problems" after the January 14 murder in the eastern Dutch city of Arnhem.

"The court is of the opinion the defendant deliberately

killed" Joyce Hau, known as Winsie to her friends, as well as attempted to murder her father, judges said in a verdict posted online.

Prosecutors told the court the murder happened after Hau had a fight on the social networking site with a 16-year-old friend identified as Polly W. and her 17-year-old boyfriend Wesley C.

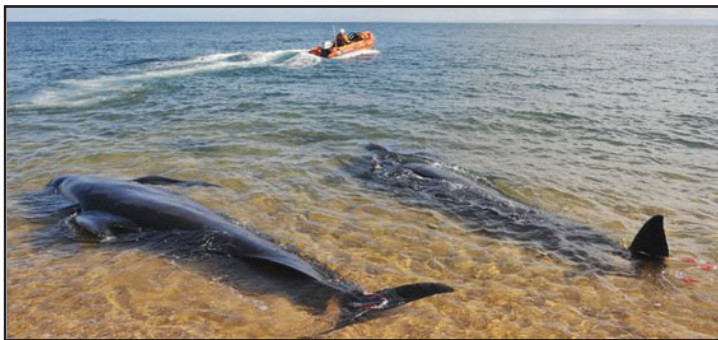
Jing Hua K went to Hau's house, saying he had something to give her. When she came to the door he repeatedly stabbed her with a knife and then attacked her father, scar-

ring his face for life, the court heard. The teenager died in hospital five days later.

"The defendant did not know Winsie personally but he acted at the request of or on the instructions of another or others," the verdict said.

During the case, witnesses testified that Jing Hua K was promised 150 euros (\$188) if he carried out the murder.

Court spokesman Jaap Otten told AFP that the details of the Facebook comments could not be discussed pending the trial of Polly W and Wesley C, for which no date has yet been set.

16 whales dead in Scotland beaching

LONDON (AFP) - Sixteen pilot whales have died after beaching themselves on the east coast of Scotland, officials

said on Sunday.

Another 10 whales from the same pod also stranded themselves at Pittenweem, near St

Andrews, but were refloated after being kept alive by vets from British Divers and Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR) with help from the local fire and police services.

Another 24 whales from the same pod were swimming in the shallows three miles along the coast, and experts were fearful that they could also be beached by the rising tide.

The local coastguard was notified of the mass beaching at 07:00 am (0600 GMT) and there were soon 30 medics and 25 support crew from the emergency services on hand to try and save the six-metre (20 feet) long mammals.

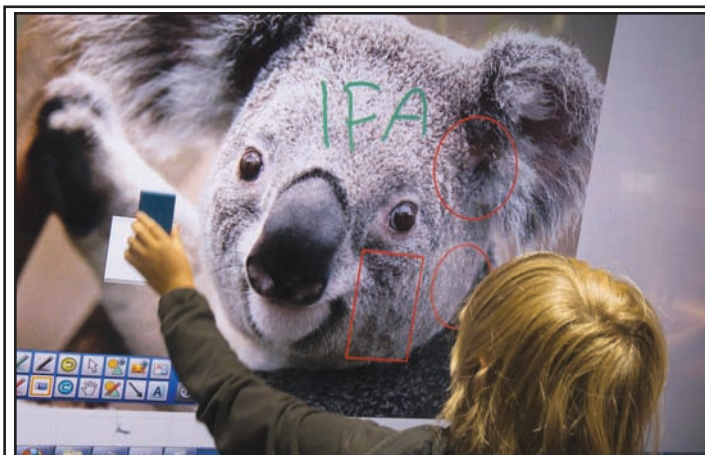
In the United States, 17 pilot whales died after beaching themselves Saturday morning at Avalon Beach State Park, on the east coast of Florida, despite efforts by volunteers and experts to save them.

Two other groups of whales swam onto beaches in North America -- one in Cape Cod on Saturday and another in Canada on Sunday.

The causes of the events remained unclear.



DAKAR (AFP) - Pieces of pottery, iron tools and jewellery dating back thousands of years have been discovered in Dakar after recent torrential rains flooded some suburbs, university researchers told AFP on Monday. Moustapha Sall, a lecturer and researcher at Dakar's Cheick Anta Diop university said he happened upon the items by chance during a visit to the suburb of Ouest-Foire in the north-east of the capital after the rains on August 26. Sall said the area was home to several construction sites, where workers said they had come across pieces of pottery and shells, which could hinder any future archeological digs. "We will do an analysis of the objects discovered and send them to a laboratory" at the university which specialises in dating historical items, Sall said. Another researcher at the university, Alioune Deme, said the objects could date back between 2,000 and 7,000 BC.



BERLIN - A boy uses a Sharp 80-inch interactive whiteboard at the IFA consumer electronics fair in Berlin, August 31, 2012. The IFA consumer electronics and home appliances fair will open its doors to the public from August 31 till September 5 in the German capital. The IFA or Internationale Funkausstellung Berlin (International radio exhibition Berlin, aka 'Berlin Radio Show') is one of the oldest industrial exhibitions in Germany. Between 1924 and 1939 it was an annual event, but as from 1950 it was organized on a two yearly basis until 2005. Since then it has become an annual event again, held in September. Today it is one of world's leading trade shows for consumer electronics and home appliances.

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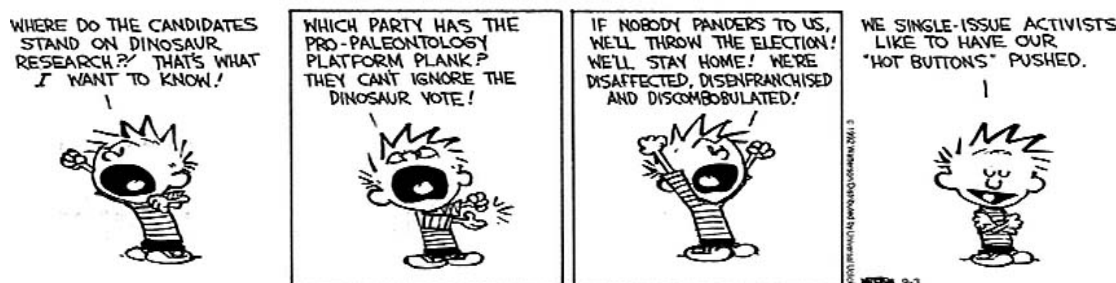
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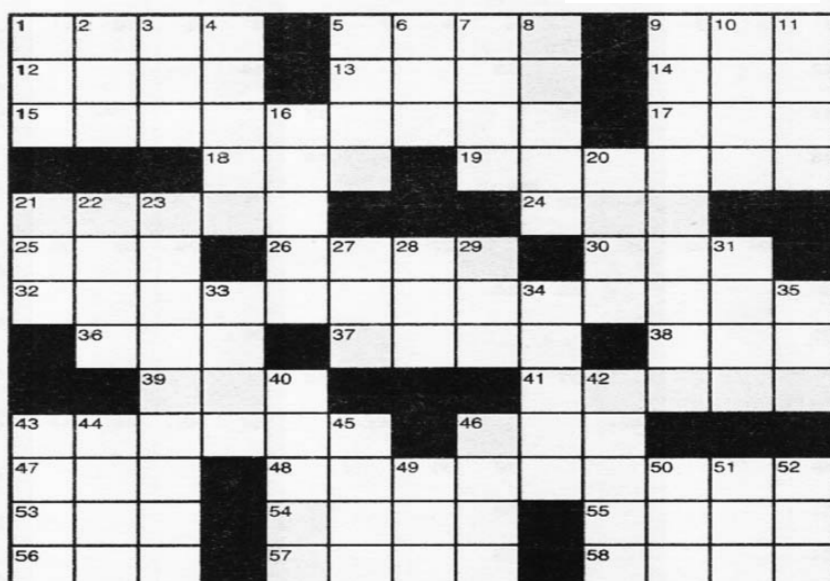
1. Oater director
Thomas
5. Soap unit
9. Type of jazz
12. Piece in a soprano's recital
13. Cassini of fashion
14. Yale's league
15. Part of Ursa Major
17. Guy's date
18. Officeholders
19. Famed California beach
21. Maddened
24. Jeans-wearer's top
25. OT judge
26. Mischievous tots
30. Octopus feature
32. Safari figure
36. Card that's usually high
37. Longtime San Francisco columnist Herb
38. Stack material
39. Contained
41. Enraged
43. Made a raspberry
46. Eye sore
47. "___ to Spring" (Thomas Gray)
48. Pertaining to the majors
53. Family member

DOWN

54. Where to go out on a limb
55. Belmont margin
56. Riviera season
57. Brood
58. Wet thoroughly
1. Bandleader Calloway
2. Tycoon Onassis
3. Trucker's pride and joy
4. Spokes
5. Cagney and Lacey, e.g.
6. Mountain of Geneva
7. ___ on truckin'
8. White-plumed
9. World War I cannon
10. The ___ Office
11. Nabors role
16. Calcutta's country
20. ___ sprouts
21. Yiddish title of respect
22. Inter ___
23. Top banana
27. Roman 2,100
28. Pod squad member
29. "You are the cruel'st ___ alive" (Shakespeare)
31. What tofu replaces, often
33. Reverse, e.g.

SUPERSIZE IT!

34. Fuse
35. New York city
40. Liabilities
42. Sportsmen Buddy and Nolan
43. Canseco of baseball
44. Prepare copy in trade
45. Gossip's stock in trade
46. Multitude
49. Letter before aitch
50. Icky, sticky stuff
51. 1994 World Cup host: abbr.
52. Mouse-spotter's shriek



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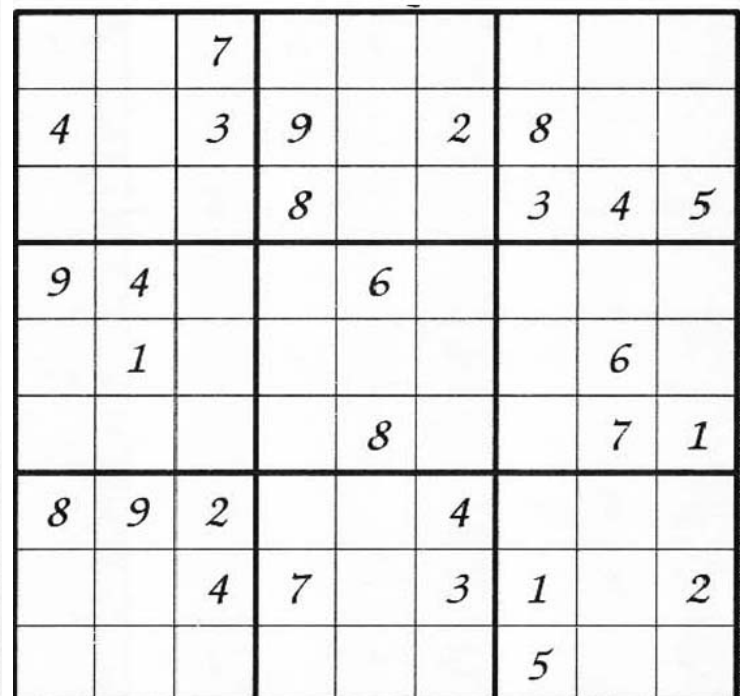
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Sudoku



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2	8	1	5	6	4	3	9	7
9	5	4	7	1	3	2	6	8
1	2	6	5	8	7	9	4	3
8	9	7	6	5	2	3	1	4
5	7	2	4	9	1	8	7	6
5	7	9	4	8	6	2	1	3
4	1	8	2	5	6	9	7	3
6	2	9	1	7	3	4	8	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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Spain pumps 4.5 bn euros into Bankia

MADRID (AFP) - Spain said yesterday it is urgently injecting 4.5 billion euros (\$5.7 billion) into Bankia, a state-rescued lender still losing billions of euros.

The state-backed Fund for Orderly Bank Restructuring (FROB) said its governing board had agreed to pump in the capital "with immediate effect" to restore its balance sheet.

Bankia lies at the heart of Spain's financial sector crisis, which led to eurozone members agreeing in June to extend a rescue loan to Madrid of up to 100 billion euros.

The FROB said it would inject the money by subscribing to a capital increase by Bankia, stressing that the decision had been taken in agreement with the European authorities.

The money was just an advance on a broader capital injection to be made by the FROB into Bankia under the eurozone deal, it said. The size

of the full injection would be decided in "coming weeks", it said.

"By this measure, we restore the group's regulatory capital while the restructuring plan is completed and guarantee the security of deposits and the group's access to all possible sources of financing."

Created in 2010 from a merger of seven troubled regional savings banks, and then listed on the market in July 2011, Bankia's finances exposed serious weakness in the Spanish system.

In the first half of this year it lost 4.45 billion euros, prompting the FROB to promise rapid action. A year ago, it was reporting first-half profits of 205 million euros.

In May, the group was nationalised after saying it would need a total 23.5 billion euros to salvage its balance sheet, loaded with risky loans that had turned sour after the 2008 property crash.

Lonmin warns 40,000 jobs at stake, S.Africa calms investors

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - The world's third platinum producer Lonmin warned yesterday that a nearly four week strike at its South African mine was threatening 40,000 jobs, as the government moved to calm jitters in the sector.

Government-mediated talks re-opened between Lonmin and the workers to try find a breakthrough in the illegal strike that left 44 dead at the company's mine in Marikana where production has been

shut down since August 10.

"An indefinite strike will ultimately threaten the jobs of more than 40,000 workers," said Lonmin as it worker turnout slid further down yesterday to 4.5 percent of its total workforce.

Meantime ministers told journalists that the government was in control of law and order in the country even as violence

broke out at a gold mine, leaving four wounded.

The violence erupted after workers, armed with traditional sticks and iron rods, gathered yesterday at the Gold One mine where they had been fired during an illegal stayaway in June. At another mine -- run by Gold Fields, a strike by 12,000 miners entered its fifth day.

Navy SEAL bin Laden book out-selling '50 Shades' on Amazon

"No Easy Day," the controversial book by a former U.S. Navy SEAL about the commando raid that killed Osama bin Laden, has stormed to the top of U.S. book sales on online retailer Amazon.com.

The unauthorized book, which has caused the U.S. Government to threaten legal action on the grounds of non-disclosure of government secrets, is already out-selling the

hugely popular Fifty Shades erotica book series.

The hardcover edition of "No Easy Day" officially becomes available in the United States today, September 4.

"No Easy Day: The First-hand Account of the Mission That Killed Osama Bin Laden," is written by a Navy SEAL operative under the pseudonym Mark Owen.

Finance

ECB shows no sign of restarting bond buy program

FRANKFURT (AFP) - The European Central Bank has again opted not to resume its program of buying up bonds of eurozone nations, data suggested yesterday, amid speculation that the bank may do so very soon.

According to data published on the bank's website, it did not buy any sovereign bonds last week for the 25th week in a row.

The ECB launched its bond-buying blitz under the Securities Market Program (SMP) in 2010 to help debt-ravaged eurozone countries that were finding it difficult to drum up financing in capital markets.

But the SMP has lain dormant since February following the ECB's moves to pump

more than one trillion euros (\$1.25 trillion) into the banking system via three-year funding operations in December and February.

Nevertheless, there is widespread speculation the ECB could be preparing to reactivate the program soon after ECB chief Mario Draghi said last month the bank "may" resume bond purchases, albeit under strict conditions that are still in the process of being worked out.

Bundesbank chief Jens Weidmann has made no bones about his opposition to the SMP and recent newspaper reports have even suggested that he has threatened to resign over the issue, just as his predecessor Axel Weber and the ECB's former German chief

economist Juergen Stark had earlier in the crisis.

SMP was controversial from the start, with critics saying the ECB was overstepping its mandate in buying up sovereign bonds on the secondary market.

Between January and August 2011, the purchases dried up, but the ECB resumed the program when renewed strains pushed Italian and Spanish borrowing rates to unsustainable levels.

The ECB has so far accumulated 209 billion euros in bonds from Greece Ireland, Portugal, Italy and Spain as part of the program.

At one point, purchases reached as much as 22 billion euros in a single week.

EU executive bids to reassure Schaeuble on bank supervision

BRUSSELS (AFP) - The European Commission yesterday sought to reassure German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble that the European Central Bank's role in a new bank supervisory system would not be too onerous.

Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso will present

proposals for a single European Union supervisory body and rulebook on September 12, the first stage in a so-called banking union that is designed to underpin a long-term response to the debt crisis.

But the EU executive showed signs of altering its stand after Schaeuble told the Financial Times last week that giving the ECB supervisory authority over only the biggest banks, and not all 6,000 or so in the eurozone, would be the "common sense" approach.

EU financial services commissioner Michel Barnier had earlier said the ECB would be at the heart of the financial supervisory regime, not only for the biggest, or systemic banks, but with ultimate responsibility for monitoring of all financial

institutions.

But Barnier told reporters that "we will find the right approach" in conjunction with Schaeuble. It was "inconceivable that this supervision be exercised over all banks from the summit of the industry."

In a later speech, EU economy commissioner Olli Rehn said that the ECB "will have to be entrusted with the prime responsibility and with key supervisory tasks to ensure efficient and high-quality supervision."

However, he underlined that "national supervisors, who have accumulated experience and developed expertise in prudential supervision, will continue to play an important role in this system."

Daily Exchange Rates				
Current as of: 09/03/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.78	1.80	1.82
Britain	GBP	2.76	2.81	2.87
Switzerland	CHF	186.23	186.95	187.75
Netherlands	EUR	221.82	223.84	226.09
Sweden	SEK	25.61	26.33	27.13
Denmark	DKK	29.07	29.79	30.59
Norway	NOK	29.69	30.41	31.21
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A	W	O	L		A	G	O		O	V	A	L
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Spain film festival to honour Travolta



MADRID (AFP) - John Travolta will grab a lifetime achievement award at Spain's top film festival, alongside Oliver Stone, Ewan McGregor and Tommy Lee Jones, organ-

isers said Monday.

The 58-year-old American actor will be honoured with a Donostia award by the September 21-29 San Sebastian Festival in northern Spain, where he is presenting his latest film, *Savages*.

The festival cited a string of Travolta's famous roles including in Quentin Tarantino's *Pulp Fiction* (1994), *Get Shorty* (1996), *Grease* (1978), and *Carrie* (1976).

"From his long list of films, would highlight Saturday

Night Fever (1977), origin of the disco phenomenon in the 1970s," the festival said in a statement, noting that it earned him an Oscar nomination.

Travolta will be honoured on September 23. Fellow Donostia recipients at the festival will be US director Stone, Scottish actor McGregor and US star Lee Jones.

Past Donostia winners include Glenn Close, Julia Roberts, Richard Gere and Woody Allen.

The San Sebastian film festival, the oldest and most prestigious event of its kind in the Spanish speaking world, will be celebrating its 60th edition this year.

German women's magazine rethinking 'no models' policy

BERLIN (AFP) - One of Germany's top women's magazines said Monday it was reviewing its policy of only publishing photographs of amateur models instead of professionals.

The fortnightly magazine, *Brigitte*, made international headlines in October 2009 with the news that it would only print pictures of "real women" after readers complained they could not identify with ultra-thin professional models.

A spokeswoman for Gruner + Jahr publishing house told AFP that a new editor-in-chief



planned a thorough overhaul of the magazine, confirming a

report in the daily *Sueddeutsche Zeitung*.

The first "no models" issue hit newsstands in January 2010. It prompted German designer Karl Lagerfeld to call the policy "absurd" and point out that fashion was all about "dreams and illusions".

The *Sueddeutsche* said one reason for questioning the policy was that lay models were harder for photographers and stylists to work with, while according to *Brigitte* the amateurs received pay "comparable" to that of professionals.

In addition, the magazine, which was founded in 1954, had to search for women to feature without the help of modelling agencies, also driving up costs.

And many readers complained that while the women in the pages of *Brigitte* may not be models, they tended to be as thin and pretty as the professionals and the magazine continued to prominently feature diet tips.

The *Sueddeutsche* report cited figures showing that sales had dropped to around 602,000 from about 802,000 in 2002 with little sign of a boost from the "no models" policy.

The Gruner + Jahr spokeswoman could not immediately confirm the numbers.



PARIS - Pop star Rihanna let rip in a series of foul-mouthed Twitter posts, saying she had to fight her way out of a Paris train station after a crowd of French fans gathered to greet her. The singer from Barbados had earlier posted a photo showing herself at London's St Pancras station -- and the time of her train's departure for Paris marked on a station sign. She has 25 million followers on her Twitter account. She arrived at the Gare du Nord in Paris on the Eurostar late Saturday to find an enthusiastic crowd waiting to greet her. The station's security team and her own bodyguards struggled to protect her from the crush as she tried to leave the station. "The French are fuckin insane!!!" she tweeted a little later. "FYI, if u push me, you WILL get pushed the phuck back!" she added. "I just had to fight my way out of a damn train station!!!" she exclaimed.

AFP PHOTO



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REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SEOUL : (FILES) This file photo taken on February 16, 2002 shows Unification Church founder Reverend Sun Myung Moon (L) and his wife Hak Ja Han joining hands to bless couples during a mass wedding ceremony at an indoor Seoul stadium. Sun Myung Moon, the self-styled messiah from South Korea who founded the controversial Unification Church and a business empire spanning from cars to sushi, died on September 3, 2012 at the age of 92.

AFP PHOTO

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5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an inter-

nationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy,

made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$3.99, (\$4.49 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-



most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries is enough to be shared by

two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

London Paralympics 2012

Australia's Freney makes it fantastic five



LONDON (AFP) - Australia's Jacqueline Freney yesterday won her fifth gold of the Games in the stand-out performance of the day, after a row involving sprinter Oscar Pistorius overshadowed the sporting action.

World record holder Freney, who has cerebral palsy, took gold in a new Paralympic best of 1min 9.39sec in the S7 100m freestyle to add to her titles in the S7 50m butterfly, S7 100m backstroke and SM7 200m individual medley.

Then with team-mates Ellie Cole, Madison Elliott and Katherine Downey, the 20-year-old added the women's 4x100m freestyle 34 points relay, making it a clean sweep for the Aussies after the men's team triumphed on Sunday.

In that race, Matthew Cowdrey bagged his 10th Paralympic title in a career spanning three Games, needing just one more gold to become his country's most successful Paralympian.

400m and the 100m freestyle in Beijing four years ago at the age of just 13 and has become one of the faces of the London Games.



Poland's Natalia Partyka -- one of only two Paralympians to compete at this year's Olympics -- won gold for the third consecutive Games in the women's singles Class 10 table tennis.

"It has been a really good year for me, now I'm thinking about Rio (de Janeiro in 2016). To win a medal at the

Olympics.

Pistorius dominated the headlines on Monday after he sensationally lost his T44 200m crown to Brazil's Alan Oliveira on Sunday but then claimed the length of his rivals' artificial running blades was unfair.

The 25-year-old South African, a double amputee since childhood, issued an apology about the timing of the comments, although not the substance.

"I do believe that there is an issue here and I welcome the opportunity to discuss with the IPC (International Paralympic Committee) but I accept that raising these concerns imme-

diately as I stepped off the track was wrong," he said in a statement.

The IPC responded by saying the prostheses used by all eight runners in the final were legitimate and had not exceeded rules regarding length.

Nevertheless, they agreed to meet Pistorius to discuss his concerns.

"He's a proud Paralympian. He's been a fantastic ambassador for the Paralympic movement. He's probably done more than anyone to raise our profile," said IPC spokesman Craig Spence. "We're more than willing to hear what he has to say."

The row erupted as 50 gold medals were on offer in seven sports on the fifth day of competition at the Games, which end on Sunday.

On the track, El Amin Chentouf of Morocco smashed the world best by more than 30sec in the T12 5,000m for visually impaired and blind athletes, finishing in 13min 53.77sec.

Kenya's Samwel Mushai Kimani, with guide runner James Boit, romped to a new world record of 3min 58.37 in the T11 1,500m, beating Brazil's Odair Santos, who was also inside his previous world best of 4min 03.66sec.

Olympics is now my dream. I want to achieve the same at the Olympics as I did at the Paralympics," she said.

Partyka, who was born without a right hand and forearm, beat China's Yang Qian 3-2, just weeks after she and Pistorius competed at the



Poland's Lukasz Mamczarz competes in the Men's High Jump F42 Final athletics event during the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

- AFP PHOTO



France's Marie-Amelie le Fur (C) falls after crossing the finish line to win the Women's 100 metres T44 Final.

- AFP PHOTO



Earlier Britain's swim queen Ellie Simmonds won the women's S6 200m individual medley in 3min 5.39sec, breaking the world record she set in qualifying and adding to her S6 400m freestyle title.

The teenager, who has a form of dwarfism, won the



China's Zheng Tao celebrates breaking the world record after winning the men's 100m backstroke - S6 swimming event

- AFP PHOTO

US Open: Serena storms on as Errani, Vinci strike Italy blow



NEW YORK (AFP) - Three-time champion Serena Williams stormed to a double bagel 6-0, 6-0 rout of Czech Andrea Hlavackova to reach her 10th US Open quarter-final on Monday in a ruthless display of her title credentials.

The 30-year-old American allowed the world number 82 just eight points on her serve and finished the last-16 clash with 31 winners against just seven unforced errors, backing up her 57-minute win with eight aces.

Williams, a 14-time Grand Slam title winner, and the reigning Wimbledon and Olympic champion, has dropped just 12 games in four matches at the Open this year.

She hasn't lost a game in her last three sets played while Monday's mauling was the fifth time in her career she had handed out a double bagel.

Williams will on Wednesday face Ana Ivanovic for a place in the semi-finals after the Serb 12th seed defeated Bulgaria's Tsvetana Pironkova 6-0, 6-4.

The other quarter-final will feature Italian compatriots, best friends and doubles partners Sara Errani and Roberta Vinci battling for a semi-final spot.

Errani, the 10th seed, defeated last year's semi-finalist, German sixth seed Angelique Kerber 7-6 (7/5), 6-3, while Vinci saw off Polish second seed Agnieszka Radwanska 6-1, 6-4.

It will be the first time two Italian women have made the last eight at the same Grand Slam.

Today's first quarter-finals see top seed Victoria Azarenka facing defending champion Samantha Stosur while 2006 winner Maria Sharapova takes on France's Marion Bartoli.

Williams dismissed suggestions that the 2012 title was already a formality.

"I think my road has been a journey. I don't think anything's easy. I don't think anything is easy," she said.

Williams has now reached a 34th quarter-final at a major.

Ivanovic booked her first Grand Slam spot in four years -- and first ever at the US Open -- by defeating Bulgaria's Tsvetana Pironkova 6-0, 6-4.

Ivanovic has never taken a set off Williams in her three defeats; two of those losses came at the US Open in 2006 and 2011.

The 24-year-old Ivanovic's last major quarter-final came on the way to her one and only Grand Slam triumph at the 2008 French Open.

Errani, 25, the French Open runner-up, made her first US Open quarter-final in what has become her best year on the tour which has brought her four singles titles and seven doubles trophies.

Vinci had lost all four previous meetings with Wimbledon finalist Radwanska, who has yet to get beyond the fourth round in New York.

The 29-year-old will be playing in a Grand Slam quarter-final for the first time.

"I just closed my eyes and played. The ball was big enough," said Vinci.

Football

ROME (AFP) - Former Italian international striker Christian Vieri is set to be compensated to the tune of one million euros after he fell victim to a phone-tapping affair, it was reported Monday.

A dossier on Vieri, 39, was discovered by chance in 2006 as part of an unrelated investigation into the Italian telephone company Telecom Italia.

It later transpired that his former club, Inter Milan, had been "spying on him", according to the Gazzetta dello Sport newspaper website.

In 2008 he sued the company for a total of 12 million euros and Inter for 9.25 million after complaining of "stalking and the wrongful acquisition of phone records", according to www.gazzetta.it.

The website said Vieri's movements had been closely followed by his club via the telephone company during the 2000-01 season and again in 2004.

The report added that the now retired striker, who was capped 49 times, would receive compensation of one million euros.

While Paris Saint-Germain on Monday confirmed the signing of Dutch international right-back Gregory Van der Wiel from Ajax on a four-year deal.

The 24-year-old agreed to join the Ligue 1 outfit on Friday, and PSG coach Carlo Ancelotti had admitted on Saturday that a deal for the player was all but done.

Sources close to PSG said that the fee for Van der Wiel will be around 6 million euros (\$7.5m), with his salary reaching 300,000 euros (\$377,000) per month.

"I am ready for a new challenge. At Ajax I have experienced some marvellous moments but the time for change has come," Van der Wiel was quoted as saying in the Dutch press on Friday.

He will provide competition at right-back for PSG captain and France international Christophe Jallet.

Van der Wiel attended the game at Lille, and was introduced to his future teammates by Ancelotti in the dressing room after the match.

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Copa Aruba Soccer ... continued from page 16



The ladies of the ATA with Rogerio Donato of CIA Travel



Final games for the top spots in the three categories are scheduled for Thursday afternoon beginning at 2:00, 4:00 and 6:00 PM, with the awards ceremony to immediately follow. Arubans are encouraged

to fill the bleachers and cheer on the home team. Entrance fee is 7 Arubian florins, (\$4.) for adults and children are free.

by Rosalie Klein

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Third edition of the Copa Aruba Soccer Meet began this Sunday



The Aruban Team

Minister of Public Health and Sport, Dr. Richard Visser and Ronella Tjon Asjoe-Croes, CEO of the Aruba Tourism Authority, were pleased to welcome 214 Brazilian soccer players on Sunday, September 2, for the Third Annual Copa Aruba vs Brazil Soccer Tournament. Rufo Kelly, Director of the Aruba Football Union was also on hand for the official opening of the games. Rogerio Donata, Founder and Director of Cia Travel Brazil, which organizes the event, expressed his gratitude for the enthusiastic cooperation of Aruba's local sports and tourism enti-

ties in making this year's Copa Aruba another successful event.

The field at Frans Figaroa Stadium in Noord will be busy with exciting soccer action every day through the finals this Thursday, September 6. The opening game pitted Aruba's Barcelona, Roma and Arusur teams against the Dr. 16, Caravel and Macabi teams of Brazil.

This year, Cia Travel of Brazil brought 214 players from six Brazilian cities to Aruba, along with family and fans, for a total of 550 travelers. The qualifying games are

between nine Aruban and eleven Brazilian teams in three categories, Pre-master, Master and Super Master.

A number of famed Brazilian players are participating, including Juninho Paulista for the Macabi team. Paulista was part of the team that won the World Cup in 2002. Also playing for Macabi is Claudio Guadagno. Other Brazilian notables are Carlos Alberto playing for Regatas, Anderson Cordoval and Thiago Gosling playing for Futsamba and Jefferson Feijao.

Regulating the play will be former FIFA certified Brazilian referees along with FIFA



level Aruban referees. All the games are being transmitted live to fans back in Brazil via the internet on www.cia-travel.com.br. Winners in third and second place receive medals and the first place teams takes home a beautiful trophy. The first year, Brazil swept the competition, but last year Aruba

evened the score by claiming the championship title.

Following the opening ceremonies, the Brazilian teams Dr. 16, Caravel and Macabi made a clean sweep of the games, in all three categories. They defeated Aruba's Barcelona, Roma and Arusur teams 9-0, 4-2 and 7-0.

continues on page 15